

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrically conductive interconnect member, comprising:
 - a. a metal tab, the metal tab comprising:
 - i. at least one side bend projecting beneath the metal tab; and
 - ii. at least one lance;
 - b. a housing, the housing comprising:
 - i. a rail; and
 - ii. a post for coupling to the at least one lance when the at least one lance is bent downward toward the housing.
2. (Original) The member of claim 1, wherein the at least one side bend is non-perpendicular with a top of the metal tab.
3. (Original) The member of claim 2, wherein a cross section of the rail geometrically corresponds to an area between the at least one side bend and the top of the metal tab.
4. (Original) The member of claim 3, wherein the at least one side bend further comprises at least one cut out.
5. (Original) The member of claim 4, wherein the metal tab is less than 1 mm thick.
6. (Original) The member of claim 1, wherein a cross section of the housing is Y-shaped.

7. (Original) The member of claim 6, wherein outer surfaces of the Y-shape comprise concave surfaces.

8. (Original) The member of claim 7, wherein the at least one side bend is crimped against the rail so as to exert frictional forces against the rail.

9. (Original) The member of claim 1, wherein the metal tab comprises at least a first and at least a second lance.

10. (Original) The member of claim 9, wherein the width of the post is less than or equal to the distance between the first and second lance.

11. (Currently Amended) A rechargeable battery assembly, comprising:

a. a plurality of rechargeable cells, wherein a subset of the plurality of rechargeable cells has been electrically coupled with a plurality of flexible metal tabs;

b. a plurality of interconnect members ~~as in claim 1 comprising a metal tab and a housing, the metal tab including at least one side bend projecting beneath the metal tab and at least one lance, and the housing including a rail and a post for coupling to the at least one lance when the at least one lance is bent downward toward the housing;~~ and

c. a printed circuit board;

wherein the plurality of rechargeable cells are arranged in parallel rows of two cells, the two cells being disposed end to end.

12. (Original) The assembly of claim 11, wherein the flexible metal tabs are coupled to the interconnect members by a method selected from the group consisting of spot welding, soldering and pinch welding.

13. (Original) The assembly of claim 12, wherein the plurality of rechargeable cells comprises eight cells, disposed in four parallel rows of two end to end cells.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the plurality of interconnect members comprises four interconnect members.

15. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 11, wherein the housing is manufactured from a material selected from the group consisting of styrene, polystyrene, a plastic having minimal vapor emissions during a welding process Noryl GTX 830, ABS, polycarbonate resin, and polycarbonate-ABS resin.